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**JUL 13 2005  
PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the application of:	Attorney Docket No.: 3110.07US06
Kuslich et al.	Confirmation No.: 2692
Application No.: 10/812,345	Examiner: Candice Stokes
Filed: March 29, 2004	Group Art Unit: 3732
For: ANNULUS-REINFORCING BAND	

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR RESPONSE  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), an extension of time of Three (3) month(s) from April 13, 2005 to July 13, 2005 within which to respond to the Office Action dated January 13, 2005 is requested. Applicant(s) are entitled to small entity status in accordance with 37 CFR 1.27. The Commissioner is authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 16-0631 the \$510.00 extension fee and any underpayments, overpayments or additionally required fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
Wendy J. Cusick  
Registration No. 52,788

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**JUL 14 2005**

Customer No. 24113  
Patterson, Thuente, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.  
4800 IDS Center  
80 South 8th Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100  
Telephone: (612) 349-3019

*Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.*

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9306 on the date shown below.

Date

7-13-05

  
Wendy J. Cusick